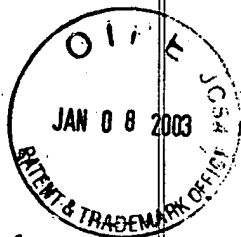


#20  
Amdt. 2 (2003)  
1/14/03

ATTENTION: BOX AFTER FINAL  
RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE REQUESTED  
EXAMINING GROUP 1648

PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 2356.0011-06



Deborah  
FARROW  
8/14/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
ALIZON et al. ) Group Art Unit: 1648  
Application No.: 09/041,975 ) Examiner: Parkin, J.  
Filed: March 13, 1998 )  
For: VARIANT OF LAV VIRUSES )

RECEIVED  
JAN 13 2003  
TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

In reply to the Final Office Action of July 16, 2002, and pursuant to 37 C.F.R.  
§ 1.116, Applicants propose that this application be amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add new claims 39-41 as follows:

39. (NEW) A purified HIV-1 variant virus,  
wherein said HIV-1 variant virus differs at the amino acid sequence level from the  
group of viruses consisting of HIV-1<sub>IIIB</sub>, HIV-1<sub>BRU</sub>, and HIV-1<sub>ARV-2</sub> at least 9.8% in the  
entire Gag protein, 5.5% in the entire Pol protein, and 20.7% in the entire Env protein,

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